

mens seem to come very near what I regard as a very dwarf . . . form of *adenocaulon*, . . . which may be the *E. ciliatum* of Rafinesque. . . . As yet, however, there is too much uncertainty about the matter to warrant the application of the name *ciliatum* to either plant, unless for this dwarf form (Plate 22) [small *E. adenocaulon*] either as a variety under *adenocaulon* or as a valid species immediately preceding it." In the Gray Herbarium, however, Trelease annotated as presumably *E. ciliatum* (cliffs of Saguenay River, Aug. 13, 1879, *Pringle*; Rocky Mts., *Bourgeau*, 1858) characteristic plants of his *E. adenocaulon*, var. ? *perplexans*. The latter name was well chosen. Since, however, we can scarcely reject the name *E. ciliatum* Raf. for a plant with simple stem and leaves "petiolated, ovated", and since both Haussknecht and Trelease have felt that he had *E. americanum*, I am following this interpretation. Otherwise the only plant of "North Pennsylvania" with "ovated" leaves would be *E. adenocaulon*, which is a wide-ranging variety of *E. glandulosum* Lehm. (1830). To take up *E. ciliatum* (1808) for one of the varieties of *E. glandulosum* (1830), which, as interpreted by Munz, M. E. Peck or myself, includes as varieties not only *E. adenocaulon* (1879) but *E. exaltatum* Drew (1889), *E. occidentale* (Trel.) Rydb. (1900) and *E. cinerascens* Piper (1918) and most plants erroneously identified as *E. boreale* Haussk. (1884), would create nomenclatural havoc. It is better, in the absence of an actual type, to let the earliest name, *E. ciliatum*, apply to the less variable species, to which its brief diagnosis well applies.

AN ALOPECURUS NEW TO NORTH AMERICA.—On the 21st of July, 1943, while travelling through the Codroy Valley, in South-western Newfoundland, I plucked a couple of specimens of what I thought to be *Alopecurus pratensis* growing in an old meadow at Upper Ferry, to demonstrate to a number of farmers how to distinguish between meadow foxtail and timothy. Upon examination, however, I noted that the specimens I held in my hand differed from the typical *A. pratensis* which ranges widely throughout Eastern Newfoundland, insomuch as the awns scarcely extended beyond the glumes. Fortunately I pulled enough of one of the plants to show a bit of stolon. This charac-

teristic, along with the short awns and lobulate, rather than nearly continuous panicle, Professor M. L. Fernald states, marks at once the European *Alopecurus ventricosus* Pers. The European floras give these points as the quickest key characters for this species. The culms of *A. ventricosus* rise mostly solitary from the tips of stolons, whereas *A. pratensis* has a denser habit with the culms arising from among tussocks of foliage. Again, the glumes of *A. ventricosus* are prolonged and somewhat divergent, much exceeding the lemmas.

Professor Fernald states that so far as he knows this is the first evidence of *A. ventricosus* in North America and doubtless botanists will be interested in observing closely for further occurrences of this species on the continent. I have recently found it in abundance at Mt. Pearl, near St. John's.

Specimens from Upper Ferry and from Mt. Pearl have been deposited in the Gray Herbarium, Harvard University.—IVAN J. GREEN, Agricultural Division, Department of Natural Resources, St. John's, Newfoundland.

WHITE-FLOWERED FORM OF ASCLEPIAS SYRIACA.—The usual flower-color in the common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca* L.) ranges from dull purple to deep pink, the corona-segments generally being a brighter and lighter shade than the petals proper. The particular flower-color, however, is constant for a clone, all the stems arising from the same creeping root, which may extend over a considerable area, bearing flowers of the same shade of color. On some occasions plants with pure white flowers are encountered. These lack all trace of pink or purple in the corolla and adjacent parts. Even on the pedicels, leaf-veins and stem, especially at the base of hairs and around the site of wounds, where the anthocyanin pigments show up if they are produced at all, the purple color is entirely lacking. As a consequence, such plants have a bright green appearance and stand out conspicuously when growing among the typical plants of dull green foliage. For them, the following designation is offered:

ASCLEPIAS SYRIACA L., forma **leucantha**, f. nova. Corona alba; petala alba vel virescentia. Planta tota sine pigmentis